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Those of us at Whitewater Valley R.E.M.C. wish to provide the basis of support in regards to the Department of Energy's positioning on electric resistance water heating. Fundamentally, when providing information concerning water heating and other appliance or heating or air conditioning we put forth consistent messages about customer choice and understanding user costs. In doing so both utilities and the D.O.E. must balance the practicality of these matters.

The practicalities of including electric resistance water heating in the Energy Star Program are apparent:

- Excellent name brand electric water heaters have demonstrated higher efficiencies
- Electric resistance water heating fill a need for many buyers to allow installations they can afford
- Some alternative water heating technology presently being touted lacks significant history to provide an alternative.

Respectfully,

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